

## PURPOSE

***Differences in Health Status among Racial/Ethnic Groups, Arizona, 2015*** is drawn upon information reported to the Department (see Source of Data on page 139). The report provides population-level data concerning differences in the health of five racial/ethnic groups residing in Arizona: White non-Hispanics, Hispanics or Latinos, Blacks or African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, and Asians or Pacific Islanders including Hawaiians.

The report compares the relative standing of racial/ethnic groups on 65 indicators (prior to the 2013 report there were 70 indicators) or measures of health status. Due to the implementation of the revised birth certificate, the 2015 report will reflect 65 indicators. The indicators are presented in a series of simple, self-explanatory bar charts and are organized around 9 major subject areas:

(1) TEEN PREGNANCIES, (2) MATERNAL LIFESTYLE AND HEALTH CHARACTERISTICS, (3) UTILIZATION OF PRENATAL CARE SERVICES, (4) NEWBORN'S HEALTH, (5) MORTALITY FROM NATURAL CAUSES (CHRONIC AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES), (6) MORTALITY FROM INJURIES, (7) AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY, (8) PATTERNS OF PREMATURE MORTALITY and (9) THE INCIDENCE OF REPORTABLE DISEASES.

Each bar chart visually describes how the racial/ethnic group compares to other groups and the overall State level for each indicator. These graphic representations are found in ***Comparative Measures of Health Status by Race/Ethnicity in 2015*** while the tabulated values also are available in the ***Comparative Rates and Ratios for 2005-2015*** section of the report.

The report also provides comparative risk profiles, as well as scores and rankings of racial/ethnic groups on each of the 65 health status measures. The comparisons of rates and ratios, as well as scores and rankings, are intended to present the extent of the inequalities in health status among racial/ethnic groups in our state and to stimulate viable initiatives to improve the health of **all** Arizonans.

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF ARIZONA'S RACIAL/ETHNIC DIVERSITY

The racial and ethnic composition of the population has important consequences for the state's health status because many measures of disease and disability differ significantly by race and ethnicity. Among the estimated 6,758,251 Arizona residents in 2015, approximately 3,860,314 (57.1 percent) were White non-Hispanic, 2,069,227 (30.6 percent) were Hispanic or Latino, and 287,001 (4.2 percent) were American Indian or Alaska Natives. Blacks or African Americans accounted for 307,902 or (4.6 percent), Asians or Pacific Islanders, the smallest racial/ethnic group, represented 3.0 percent 199,310 people, of the state's population.

Racial/ethnic minority groups have greater percentages of people younger than 25 years (45.1 percent) when compared with White non-Hispanics (25.8 percent). In contrast, people aged 65 years and older accounted for (22.7 percent) of White non-Hispanics, but only (6.8 percent) of all racial/ethnic minority groups combined. In 2015, among Arizonans less than 25 years old, (56.8 percent) more than half were a race/ethnicity other than White non-Hispanic. Among the Arizona's adults 65 years old or older, (81.7 percent) eight out of ten were White non-Hispanic (**Table A**).

**Table A. POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND RACE/ETHNICITY, ARIZONA, 2015**

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP IN 2015	All groups	White non- Hispanic	Other than White non-Hispanic <sup>a</sup>				
			Total	Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
< 25 years	2,303,184	995,818	1,307,366	975,607	130,716	123,151	77,892
Percent	34.1%	25.8%	45.1%	47.1%	42.5%	42.9%	33.3%
25-64 years	3,379,760	1,986,454	1,393,306	966,222	153,545	139,562	133,977
Percent	50.0%	51.5%	48.1%	46.7%	49.9%	48.6%	57.3%
65+ years	1,075,307	878,042	197,265	127,398	23,641	24,288	21,938
Percent	15.9%	22.7%	6.8%	6.2%	7.7%	8.5%	9.4%
Total, all ages <sup>b</sup>	6,758,251	3,860,314	2,897,937	2,069,227	307,902	287,001	233,807
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Mortality patterns by age group in Arizona show similar contrasts between race/ethnicity groups. In 2015, the elderly (65 years and older) comprised 77.6 percent of the total mortality among White non-Hispanics, compared to 70.6 percent among American Indians, 43.2 percent among Blacks, 52.8 percent among Hispanics, and 50 percent among Asians. Only 1.3 percent of White non-Hispanics who died in 2015 were less than 25 years old. In comparison, (6.9 percent) of individuals who were of a racial/ethnic group other than White non-Hispanic died before reaching 25 years of age.

**Table B. MORTALITY BY AGE GROUP AND RACE/ETHNICITY, ARIZONA, 2015**

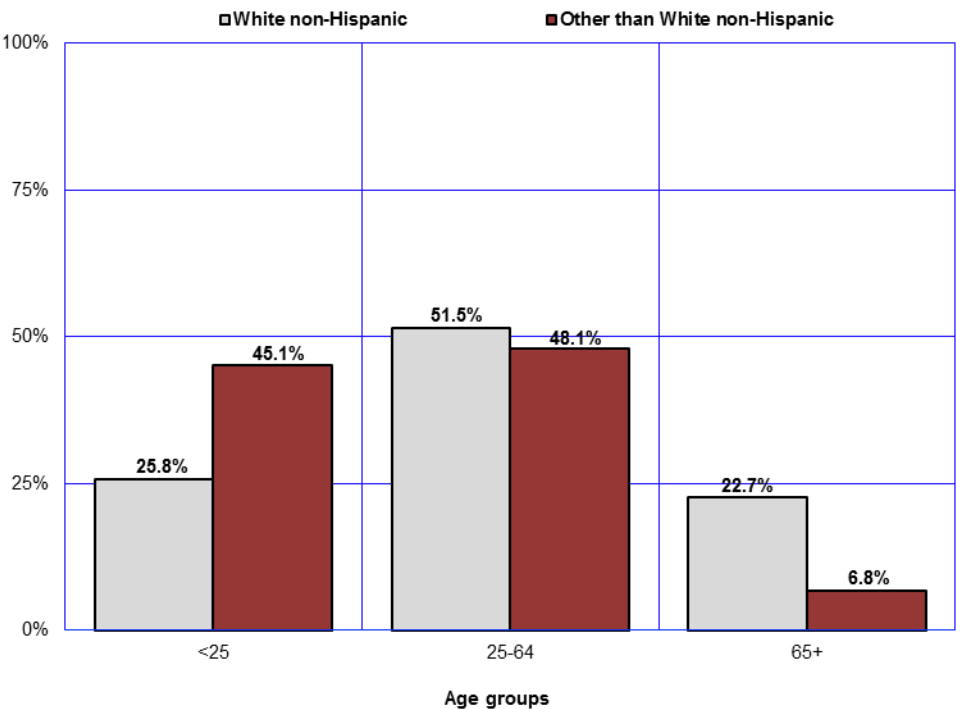
MORTALITY BY AGE GROUP IN 2015	All groups	White non- Hispanic	Other than White non-Hispanic <sup>a</sup>				
			Total	Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
< 25 years	1,344	554	472	129	157	29	*
Percent	2.5%	1.3%	6.9%	7.4%	7.3%	4.3%	**
25-64 years	13,323	8,997	2,404	693	1,059	169	*
Percent	24.6%	21.0%	35.2%	39.8%	49.5%	25.1%	**
65+ years	39,480	33,194	3,963	920	924	475	*
Percent	72.9%	77.6%	57.9%	52.8%	43.2%	70.6%	**
Total, all ages <sup>b</sup>	54,152	42,750	6,839	1,742	2,140	673	10†
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: \* Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6; \*\* Cell suppressed due to rate/ratio/percent based on non-zero count less than 6; † Sum rounded to nearest tens unit due to non-zero addend less than 6; <sup>a</sup> Includes groups other than Hispanic, Black, American Indian, and Asian; <sup>b</sup> Includes unknown age; Source: The 2015 death certificate file for Arizona residents.

In 2015, the absolute majority of deaths of American Indian (29.4 percent) and Black (56.8 percent) residents of Arizona occurred before the age of 65 years, compared to 22.3 percent among White non-Hispanics.

Graphic representations of the contrasting patterns in age-specific mortality and in the age composition of the population are provided below:

**Percent distribution of population by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2015**



**Percent distribution of deaths by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2015**

